

VILLAGE OF BISMARCK
County of Vermilion, State of Illinois
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, September 22, 2020

1. At 6:31 p.m. in the Village office located at 106 E. Holloway, Bismarck, Illinois, President Brown opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll call was taken by the Clerk. Board members present were Trustees Jane Cress, Terry Light, Kris Kizer, Mary Potter, Sheila Switzer, Karel Volpert, President Mike Brown, Treasurer Adam Muehl and Clerk Brandye Kizer. A quorum was established. Guests included residents Mr. John Pendleton and Mrs. Janet Wright.
3. Approval of agenda for September 22, 2020 was made on a motion by Jane Cress, and seconded by Trustee Sheila Switzer. The motion passed by acclamation.
4. Public Comments/Questions: Resident Janet Wright voiced concerns about the alley behind her house and the ruts in that alley. Mrs. Wright wanted to know whose responsibility it was for the alley upkeep. President Brown stated that the Village would take care of that by filling in the ruts and reseeding it. Mrs. Wright asked if there was a discussion about a culvert at one time, and President brown stated that it was discussed and the decision was to just reseed and repair. There will be signs put up to restrict certain types of vehicles down the alley. Discussed there are rats around a dumpster in the alley behind a home on Chicago. Several neighbors are complaining of having rats in their homes due to the dumpster. Maintenance personnel Mr. Dan Wright has made a call to the health department regarding the matter. The owners of the dumpster are placing trash in the dumpster. President Brown will contact the landlord to have dumpster removed.

Resident and Trustee Karel Volpert presented to the board on behalf of the Bismarck Women’s Club that August 26th, 2020 was the 100th anniversary of the adoption of the 19th amendment to the United States of Constitution. It is an exciting year as it is the 100th year for the Woman’s right to vote. Trustee Karel Volpert encouraged everyone to vote.

5. President’s Comments: President Brown welcomed everyone to the Village Meeting. President Borwn discussed that Covid-19 has put a halt to some things but is hoping that can get things going soon.
6. Approval of the Minutes for Regular Board Meeting held on August 18th, 2020, was made on a motion by Trustee Karel Volpert and seconded by Trustee Terry Light. Motion passed by acclamation.
7. Treasurer Adam Muehl presented Treasurer’s report. New bills to be considered and approved by the Board was in the amount of \$5,612.82. The majority of the bills paid out this month are for regular and recurring bills. Treasurer Adam Muehl reported that the amount for the Trustees Quarterly payroll was incorrect and should be \$786.60 instead of \$808.80. Treasurer Adam Muehl reported that the transfer for \$33,077.70 from the MFT Fund for the Tar and Chip work completed to the General Fund had not posted as of September 22, 2020. Trustee Sheila Switzer made a motion to approve treasurer’s report and bills, with a second by Trustee Jane Cress, to approve the Treasurer’s Report and pay the bills as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jane Cress- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

Treasurer Adam Muehl reported that the account balances as of 8/31/2020 are as follows: New General Fund is \$114,876.17; Old General Fund \$10,730.56; Motor Fuel Fund \$51,565.59 and TIF \$58,776.19.

Treasurer Adam Muehl discussed that he needs approval to transfer \$10,630.56 from Old General Fund to the New General Fund. Trustee Karel Volpert made a motion to approve, with a second by Trustee Mary Potter, to approve the transfer of funds as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jane Cress- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

8. Correspondence: Received a Thank you note from Jim Russell from the Vermilion County Mental Health Board thanking the Village Trustees for donating money for food. They were able to provide participants with refreshments throughout the training due to the donation given.

9. Reports of committees and assignments

a. Public Works

- i. President Brown discussed having basins cleaned in the Village. President Brown stated that there is some funding from Motor Fuel Tax that can be used for work within the Village such as concrete work, rock placement, basin cleaning. President Brown stated that he has spoken to Jay Bullock at Donohue and Associates and he has been given approval to use MFT funds for basin cleaning. The Village Board will decide the order in which each basin will be cleaned.
- ii. President Brown discussed South St. ditches. President Brown put a call to Sam Cole, C2 Engineer, to inquire if the project on South St was finished, and Sam Cole stated that the project was completed as agreed upon. Board discussed that ditches would be maintained by the residents who own the property. Trustee Terry Light had gone out and sprayed the weeds in the ditch on South St. He stated that someone had been by and sprayed the ditch. This can be done by spraying to keep weeds down and weed-eating as some other Village residents have been doing. Discussed that there are many ditches that are really deep and that it appeared the work on South St could have been done differently. Trustee Mary Potter stated that if she remembers correctly, that the Village Board only had so much money they were able to spend and they completed what they could for the budget.
- iii. The Board wanted review as to last month's discussion on alley. Discussion of the Village Alleys and the Board agreed that the Village would be responsible for repairing these alleys in need of maintenance. The Board agreed that the Village is not responsible for mowing and keeping weeds down. President Brown will get new quote from Sam Claypool on alley repair. The Village board will purchase maintenance only signs that would need to be placed at alley entrance for Maintenance Vehicles Only.
- iv. President Brown discussed they have brush and sticks to burn. Village Clerk nor President Brown have received any phone calls from residents taking advantage of the brush cleanup. Village Board members stated it may pick-up now that Fall is coming.
- v. President Brown discussed the water board requesting an easement on South end of Chicago. It was explained that the water district is wanting to do a water loop that connects from the last house on Chicago and run it west where there is an easement. It is inside the cornfield. The easement would be on the left side of the concrete post. Trustee Terry Light asked if they were going to hook into the loop in Prairie and President Brown stated that was correct. Sam Claypool is attempting to reach out to property owners affected by the easement.

Approval of water easement on South Chicago was made on a motion by Terry Light, and seconded by Trustee Kris Kizer. The motion passed by acclamation.

b. Budget and Finance

- i. Treasurer Adam Muehl reported that Mr. Ed Ryan emailed him back and stated he did not need any further information from Treasurer Muehl or Clerk Kizer. Mr. Ed Ryan will need to get attorney letter, but did not need anything else from the Village at this time to complete audit. Treasurer Muehl will work on getting letters from Attorney.

c. Health and Safety

- i. President Brown would like a discussion regarding the Motor Track concerns on Virginia. Resident Mr. Cunningham has requested all the minutes from board meetings from January, 2020 as he is still concerned with the neighbors use of a motor bike track. President Brown stated that the board would need to decide if they would like to have an ordinance regarding no motor bikes or dirt bikes within the Village boundaries, including the buffer area, which

includes Virginia Drive. President Brown stated this ordinance would have to be across the board and not just implemented for only one area. Trustee Jane Cress and Trustee Sheila Switzer voiced concerns on children who have received permission to ride their dirt bikes in a particular area, and if this ordinance would affect them. This would mean it would have to be in effect for all of the Village boundaries, including private property. President Brown stated that if the ordinance was written and passed, it would apply to all motor and dirt bikes, regardless of home owner permission. There are concerns with motor bikes being on Shake Rag and pulling out in front of vehicles. The Village would also need to find a way to police the situation, which would mean possibly increasing police patrols if agreed upon by the Sheriff's Department, which will be at a cost for the Village to increase these services.

Discussed the speed limit on side streets. The speed limit is 25mph. There are not any posted speed limits signs. President Brown stated that we can purchase overlays and place on signs the village already has. The Village Board would like to lower the speed limit to 20mph on side streets. Trustee Mary Potter stated the children are paying more attention on South St.

d. Ordinance

- i. Sexual Harassment Policy Review and Ordinance was reviewed and discussed. Trustee Terry Light made a motion, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer, to approve the Sexual Harassment Policy and Ordinance 9-22-1. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jane Cress- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

- ii. President Brown opened discussion about the trailer on Chicago and stated that the owner would like to have the deadline for removal moved to May of 2021.

Trustee Terry light made a motion, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer, to approve the deadline for the removal of the trailer to May, 2021. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jane Cress- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

e. Keep Bismarck Beautiful (KBB)-

President Brown discussed that Dr. Halloran called him and he has been growing trees. He is interested in partnering with the Village of Bismarck to plant trees for residents in the Village if interested. If anyone is interested in purchasing a tree from Dr. Halloran, they can contact him to get started. He is willing to help them with whatever they would need.

Trustee Karel Volpert discussed all the beautiful homes they seen for the Keep Bismarck Beautiful Summer Program. Trustee Karel Volpert reported that the electronic event is set for October 17th at DACC from 9a-11am.

f. Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

- i. Clerk Brandye Kizer reported to the Board the Vermilion County Settlement Sheet for the Vermilion County 2019 real estate taxes from the Vermilion County Treasurer's Office.

g. Municipal Projects (Roads, Drainage, other improvements):

- i. Received invoice from Sam Claypool for \$1,000.00 for finishing the Prairie Phase 1 project. Approval to pay Sam Claypool invoice for \$1,000.00 was made on a motion by Trustee Karel Volpert, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jane Cress- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

Trustee Sheila Switzer opened discussion about who is responsible for the corner garden area on Prairie and Wilson. Trustee Terry Light stated that is a subdivision responsibility and not a Village responsibility.

- ii. Storm Water Special Service area- President Brown stated that there have been some changes with the way that the fee can be collected and the Village Board needs to decide what kind of fee the residents would have each month. Trustee Karel Volpert asked if this includes all taxing bodies. The charge is based on EAU's. Trustee Terry Light asked the board to schedule a special meeting next month to discuss the Storm Water Special Service Area Ordinance. President Brown agreed that this would be a great idea. It is a detailed and lengthy discussion and would be best to do so in a separate meeting where this is the only discussion. All board members agreed and special meeting scheduled for October 14th, 2020 at 6:30pm.

- iii. MFT

- a. Received invoice from Donohue Associates for \$2,514.78. Approval to pay Donohue invoice for \$2,514.78 was made on a motion by Trustee Jane Cress, with a second by Trustee Mary Potter. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jane Cress- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

- b. MFT Funds from Rebuild Illinois has sent the Village \$9,000 at this time to start the project list. There will be more in January 2021. Trustee Mary Potter asked if any of the money can be used for the basins and President Brown stated that it can be used on the basins. The money can be used for basins, concrete, alley work, roads and rock. President Brown will work on getting quotes for the basin cleaning. Trustee Terry Light stated that he was upset with the way the Tar and Chip was done on the roads. They did not fill in pot holes before covering with Tar and Chip and just went over them. President Brown stated he will reach out to Jay Bullock and discuss with him that the village board is unhappy with the results of the Tar and Chip. It was also reported that there is a low spot on corner of Wilson Lane. Trustee Mary Potter also mentioned the spot on Center St. Trustee Terry Light also stated that there was a spot that was filled in with mud and they tar and chipped over it. This item was requested to stay on the agenda.
- c. The Village Board discussed the project list for 2020 and it has been approved to use MFT funds at this time. The project list has been given to Donohue. This agenda item can be removed off of agenda at this time.

- h. Permits

- i. Permits – None received

10. Old Business

11. New Business

- i. Trustee Karel Volpert announced that the Bismarck Church of Christ will be doing a Trunk' N Treat on Saturday October 31st from 4pm-6pm. Trustee Karel Volpert handed out the flyer and asked Clerk Kizer to put on facebook page and the Village Website. Clerk Kizer will also place in the monthly newsletter.

Trustee Jane Cress wanted to discuss the Village plans for Trick or Treating. The Illinois Department of Public Health was supposed to come out with guidelines at the end of the month but they have not been issued yet and residents are asking what the plan is for Halloween. Trustee Jane Cress stated that CDC has issued guidelines against trick or treating door to door. Trustee Jane Cress voiced the rise in COVID cases and the warning level for Vermilion County. The Village Board discussed and agreed that they want to put

something in place that will not be affected if there is a change in regulations by the CDC, Illinois Department of Public Health, Vermilion County Health Department or the Governor due to the rise in cases in the County. Trustee Jane Cress stated that Trustee Sheila Switzer and President Brown did such a great job with the Easter parade, and asked if a parade would be feasible. The Village Board agreed that appeared to be a great idea and allowed for social distancing if the social distancing guidelines are restricted again. It was planned for Saturday October 31st at 2pm so that families can enjoy the Trunk N' Treat that evening if they desire. Trustee Jane Cress will reach out to Mr. Goodner at the Bismarck Fire Department to see if they would be willing to bring out the fire truck like they did for the Easter parade and Santa Claus. It was discussed that golf carts, trucks and cars can participate in the parade and toss candy out. The Village would use the same route as the Easter parade. Trustee Jane Cress stated that there were several residents who mentioned the Halloween parade to her and she stated she told them she would bring to the board meeting. Clerk Kizer will put a flyer out announcing the parade and that there will be no door to door trick or treating this year in Bismarck.

- ii. President Brown discussed the Lions Club is doing a lot of work on the park. President Brown stated he was approached by several people asking if the Village would be interested in taking over the Bismarck park in time if the opportunity arose. President Brown reported there are grants for Village entities for parks. Trustee Karel Volpert would like to see what the Lions plans are for the park since they are doing so much work right now. Trustee Terry Light voiced that he is not in favor of it, as he is unsure as to what the cost would be for the upkeep and liability. The Village Board Trustees were unsure as to if the Village would be able to afford the cost. President Brown thanked the Board for their honesty and voicing their concerns on the matter and just asked that they keep the matter in mind for future.
- iii. Discussed the holiday lights and what we need to do for this Christmas. Trustee Karel Volpert asked if she could be in charge of this under Keep Bismarck Beautiful. President Brown stated that she could be the chair person for this project.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting – The next regular meeting of the Bismarck Village Board will be held at the Village Office in Bismarck, Illinois, at 6:30 p.m. on October 20, 2020. A special meeting of the Bismarck Village Board will be held at 6:30 p.m. on October 14, 2020. Bills to be considered for payment and items for the agenda are to be submitted by October 13, 2020 to Village Clerk and Village Treasurer.

13. Adjournment – With no further business to come before the Board at this time, upon motion by Trustee Terry Light, with a second by Trustee Jane Cress, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. The motion passed by acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandye Kizer, Clerk

APPROVED 10/20/2020